

# The Evening World

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## APPALLING DISASTERS.

The day's news of the terrible accident on the Pennsylvania road and the fearful work of a tornado in Oklahoma makes an appalling companion picture of the destructive forces of nature and of man.

The tornado, which picked up, twisted into fragments and hurled through the air for miles a town with 300 houses, killing or injuring one-half of the 1,000 inhabitants, is another example of the puny helplessness of man against the elemental forces.

The Pennsylvania disaster combined all the features of former fatal collisions with the added horror of dynamite explosions, which lifted and rended the heavy sleeping-cars as though they had been built of paste-board. Fire and water added their terrors to the scene. The proportion of killed and wounded to the whole number of passengers and train hands has seldom, if ever, been equalled.

For the tornado "nobody was to blame." For the railroad collision there is the usual —?

President Roosevelt's talk to the strikers in Chicago was in his very best vein. He expressed his complete sympathy with the principles and aims of labor unions, but said squarely that "in upholding law and order, in doing what he is able to do to suppress mob violence in any shape or way, Mayor Dunne has my hearty support."

## AMERICA OR ITALY?

Several highly esteemed Italians in public and private life have interested themselves in preventing the execution of the death sentence imposed upon their countrywoman, Anna Valentina, by the law and Court of New Jersey.

The fact that this woman stabbed her rival to death is not denied, but it is claimed that she had great provocation, and that in Italy she would either have been acquitted or sentenced to a short term of imprisonment.

Very likely. But New Jersey is not Italy. It is one of the United States. And in this country neither jealousy nor taunts are recognized by law as a justification for murder. Is it the idea of these people that Italian immigrants should be permitted to naturalize here the stiletto, the vendetta and the individual trial and execution of enemies which prevail in their native land? Shall ignorance of our customs and laws exempt foreigners from observing them?

The question of sex we have already considered. If no murderers is to be hanged, let the law provide another punishment. But the end of justice is impartiality—the essence of law is equality. To prescribe the death penalty for all murderers of the first degree, and then to exempt some of the most cruel and revengeful because they are women, is to make a mockery of justice and to insult the majesty of the law.

## BEAUTY AND UTILITY IN STONE WALLS.

Robert B. Roosevelt writes to the Sun protesting against being called "eccentric" because he "does not consider a stone wall beautiful."

The particular wall in question is that surrounding Central Park, which the house-owners on upper Fifth avenue want removed in order to annex the park to their front dooryards.

It is not primarily a question of beauty—though there are many persons who think a stone wall, with vines trailing over it and the green of grass and trees contrasting softly with its gray, is really more beautiful than any iron or bronze fence that was ever built.

But in this case the utility of the park wall is of more consequence than its beauty or lack of it. It separates the park from the course of traffic. It signifies to everybody that the splendid pleasure-ground of the people is set apart for their use and enjoyment forever. There is something enduring about a stone wall. It can't be taken down or moved whenever the freak to do so possesses somebody.

Let the wall stand, and let the park alone—this will be the first and last word of the people to all would-be intruders and appropriators.

## NOVEL BREACH-OF-PROMISE SUIT.

Philadelphia frequently develops legal and matrimonial novelties. The latest is a suit for damages for breach of promise by a woman now married against her former fiance. She alleges that after their formal engagement he refused to marry her, although she had advanced some money for the expenses of the wedding. She has since married another man, but she does not consider that a bar to the recovery of damages for her prior disappointment.

If this suit shall be successful it will open a wide range of damage possibilities. If every girl who gets married seeks to collect damages from every man to whom she was once engaged, the possibilities of litigation are endless. It used to be thought that matrimony was a complete solace for prior disappointments. What do the husbands of the complainants think about it?

Why is it that in this country, especially among women, there is so much more sympathy and pity for murderers than for their victims? Abolish capital punishment? Yes; but, as the French say, "Let Messieurs the murderers set the example!"

## The People's Corner.

### Letters from Evening World Readers

To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Has a man join the navy if he cannot write English but can speak it a little?  
PETER R.

Five Dollars a Day, Silver.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
What are the wages of the men working on the Panama Canal? A. C.

Kalsomine Problem.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Readers, a room is 15 feet long, 10 feet wide and 8 feet high. To kalsomine the walls costs 30 cents per square yard. How much does the job cost?  
J. H. R.

Sparrows and Luck.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Will some reader who understands superstitions tell me if it is bad luck if a sparrow flies in the window? I let my front window open to-day and two sparrows flew in. A lady told me it was bad luck.  
MRS. A. EGGERT,  
Hoboken, N. J.

The Domestic Problem.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
In my capacity as clerk for many years in drug stores in residential sections of Greater New York, I can answer the query. "Why housewives are getting scarce?" It often grieves me deeply to see how the upstairs girl and

the cook have to slave from 5 A. M. to all hours near midnight, and often have to do their own laundering on their "afternoon off" once in a fortnight instead of being out to get some fresh air and recreation. The "Good home for a maid" is a thing of the past with our present class of women looking for red-cheeked lassies from the old countries. That's why the girls seek positions in the shops and factories, where they don't have to slave every day, Sunday and holidays.  
F. L.

Against a Shorter School Day.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
I am a boy of fourteen and I would like to say a few words against shortening the school day. It would mean that the small children would be let out on the streets to be run over by cars. On the whole our small children would be in very bad circumstances. But on the other side if they were at school they would accomplish some thing and would be preparing to become noble citizens.  
GABRIEL HEATER.

It Is Against the Law.  
To the Editor of The Evening World:  
Is it against the law to carry a revolver which it is impossible to shoot, as it is rusty and the trigger and spring are broken?  
NED T.

## United in Grief—By J. Campbell Cory.



## The Man Higher Up. \* \* By Martin Green.

"I SEE," said the Cigar Store Man, "that this Valentina woman over in Jersey, who was sentenced to be hanged, runs a good chance of side-stepping the gallows."

"It is not likely that a woman will ever be put to death by law again in this country," announced The Man Higher Up. "No matter how cold-blooded the murder of which she may be guilty, the proposition of carrying out the law in her case causes national hysteria. We are establishing one set of laws for men and another for women where murder is concerned."

"There is some excuse for mercy toward the Valentina woman. Judging by her standard of intelligence she had a perfect right to cut the woman who had stolen her fickle husband. Undoubtedly she was insane with rage and jealousy when she committed the crime."

"Perhaps the jury made a mistake in finding her guilty of murder in the first degree, and on this ground her sentence could be commuted. But to bar her from

paying the death penalty simply because she is a woman is wrong.

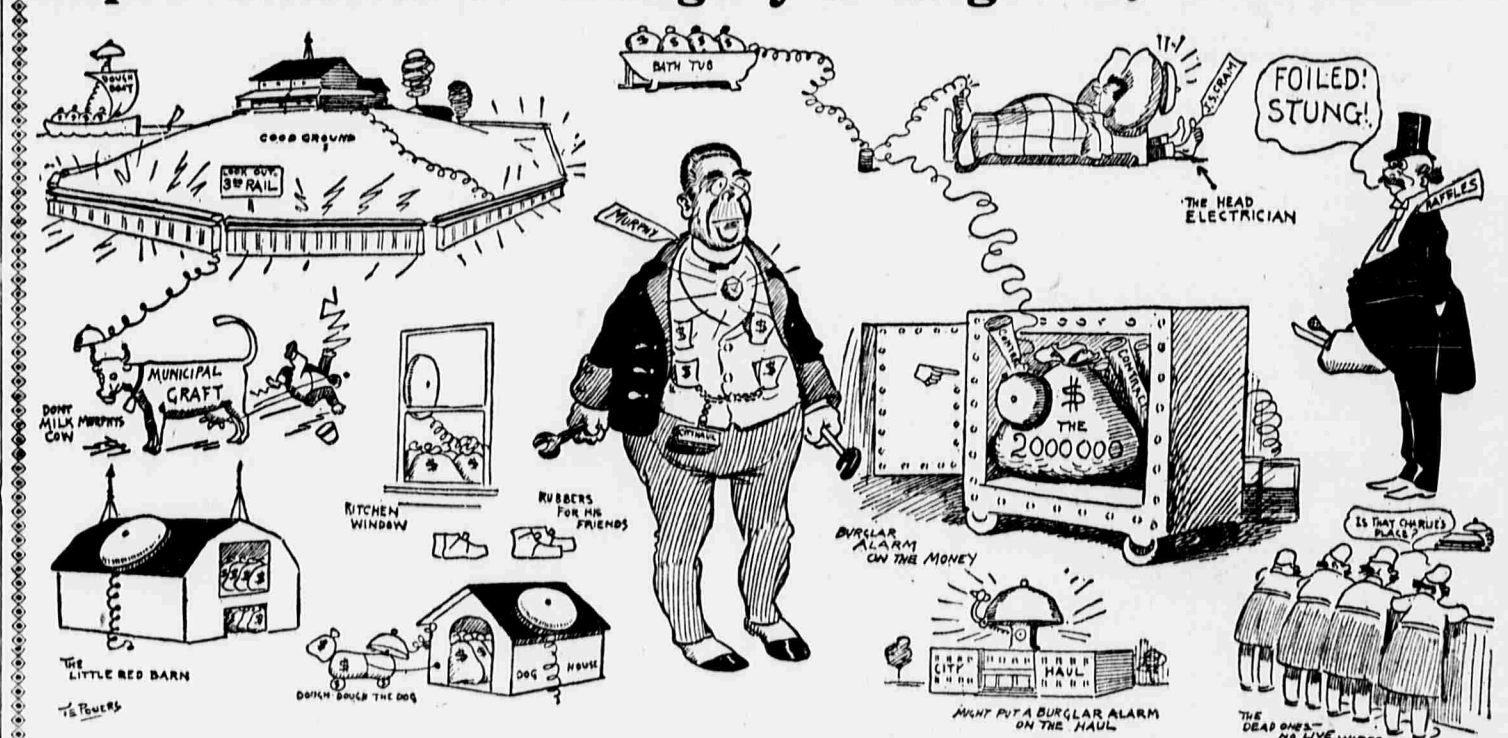
"A woman is just as handy with a revolver, a knife or a hammer as a man—especially if she catches her victim asleep or with his back turned. Many of the famous killers in history have been women. Some of the most brutal murders in history have been committed by women, and there is no guarantee that the instinct of the jealous female slayer will be extinguished by the abolition of the extreme punishment."

"So long as the law provides for the death penalty for deliberate murder, women should not be exempt. The percentage of planned murders is higher among women than among men. To take away the fear of punishment would be to encourage women to kill. We are getting so dippy that by degrees we would substitute one punishment for another for women murderers, until finally somebody would be forming an association to build statues of them in Central Park."

"What kind of a looking woman is Mrs. Valentina?" asked the Cigar Store Man.

"Homely, with large horny hands," replied The Man Higher Up. "That's why she was convicted of murder in the first degree."

## Improvements at 'Dough-y Grange.' By T. E. Powers



It is Reported that Charles Murphy is Installing a Burglar Alarm at His Summer Villa.

## Said on the Side.

"ONLY common honesty," said the elderly woman who restored Mrs. Slavin's lost \$8,500, while refusing to give her name. "Nobody's business but my own," said the youth who saved a woman from drowning in the park reservoir and maintained a clam-like reticence about himself. Still among us some of these unique individuals who "do good by stealth and blush to find it fame." No serious fear, however, that the example will spread to a point necessitating a curtailment of the output of Carnegie hero medals.

"All moonshine," says Dr. King of Dr. Morton's "liquid sunshine" cure. Bouquet for a brother physician appropriately comes from the Flower Hospital.

All of the 180 Chinamen caught in the police dragnet on Easter Sunday now free and the said declared "a Rasco and a failure." Some method in Commissioner McAdoo's objection to the presence of "zealous New York" automobiles in a section of the city where strangers might get too close a glimpse of police vaudeville performances.

"Nine women become physicians." Hope that they are more competent to diagnose and prescribe than the Nine who tried to find a remedy for "the system."

Something in that "campaign in tents to redeem New York" if it is made a three-ring affair.

Time for all things but hardly a felicitous coincidence that the return of the Presidential huntman with his trophies of oars and bobcats comes just as news comes from Madras of the bagging of a tiger and five cheetahs by the twelve-year-old daughter of the Rajah of Jatrople. This precocious oriental Diana is said to have killed a tiger at the early age of eight, and since then has despatched thirty-six head of big game "without a miss."

Newest Napoleon play, "The Creole," has in its cast not only the Little Corporal himself, but two of his brothers, three sisters, his mother, wife, stepson and stepdaughter, and a cousin and an aunt or two. Goes "Uncle Tony's Cabin," with its twin Little Evans and two Topsyes, more than one better.

Sympathy for the "Philippine prisoners" engaged like wild animals must be withheld until it is learned whether they are, as Mrs. Brown said, "a good war record."

## A Directors' Meeting at the Inequitable.

By Roy L. McCardell.

ESTERDAY'S anonymous meeting of Inequitable Insurance Company was not altogether a success, because one-half of the directors do not speak to the other half. Most of the time was spent in abusing each other through counsel.

Some discord was also occasioned by the Cafe Savarin orchestra, which is equally divided in its sympathies in the present belligerency. One-half the orchestra played "Alexander" and the other half played "Violets." Several life insurance solicitors who looked in to see what time it was complained that the trouble was playing hob.

Mr. Alexander looked somewhat pale, as he had been sitting up all night writing letters to the newspapers addressed to Mr. Hyde. He also complained that Mr. Hyde answered these communications in the newspapers before he received a copy of the replies.

Mr. Alexander's announcement that the reserve and surplus belonged to the policy-holders, but that there was no way for them to get it, augmented the coolness between him and Mr. Hyde.

Senator Depew on being asked why he received \$25,000 a year from the company, said it was nobody's business but his own. He then convulsed the meeting with merry stories of his boyhood days in Peekskill.

A communication from Mr. Summerfield, dated Ossining, asking why he was not let in on some of the good things, was tabled. It will be answered in due time, when it is found who controls the company.

The arrest of Samuel Lobel, alias Edwards, alias Hamilton, alias William Dally, was denounced as an outrage. He had been operating with an employee of the Inequitable under the title of "Daily & Associates" in borrowing money on a policy, taking it out of the vaults and borrowing again, and yet again.

Some of the interests present thought Mr. Dally's plan just overstepping the mark a little—but not very much. As Lobel, alias Dally and the rest, had not been appointed a director under any of his various names, his method of financiering was severely denounced. It was said that one thing in Lobel's favor was that he imitated Mr. Hyde in wearing bunches of whiskers on his chin. Whether there was a bunch of violets in Lobel's lapel could not be learned.

One of the directors wanted to know who had called the meeting. Another director rose to announce that it did not matter who had called the meeting, but it was very unpleasant to listen to what the policy-holders were calling the directors.

Mr. Frick was reported to be annoyed that anything was being done until the result of his investigations were announced.

When this was made known to those present, another director said that Mr. Frick need not be annoyed. Nothing was being done, and, according to the agents, there was nothing doing.

A resolution that all directors should be insured in the Inequitable was voted down. The better method, it was held, was for directors to take out and not put in.

Messengers then announced that the daily accusations of Messrs Hyde and Alexander were ready for publication, and after a few little rows among themselves a resolution was passed that all proceedings of the anonymous meeting be kept secret until those present had time to send typewritten accounts to the newspapers.

Several rude persons who occasioned some disorder in the corridor and who endeavored to excuse their conduct by claiming to be policy-holders were unceremoniously ejected. And before adjourning the directors voted unanimously that no more policy-holders be allowed upon the Inequitable's premises, as their clamorings annoyed both Mr. Hyde and Mr. Alexander.

## Confessions of Lillian Russell.

### Asked These Questions: Miss Russell Replied:

Your favorite virtue?.....Honesty and respectability.  
Vice you most dislike?.....Lying; I hate a liar.  
Your favorite character in history?.....Queen Elizabeth.  
Your favorite motto?.....Never mind, it'll all be the same a hundred years hence; or, It will all come out in the wash.  
Your favorite name for a woman?.....Any that isn't taken from a comic opera. Mary is about the best.  
Your favorite name for a man?.....Any that isn't a sissy name. John has always been my favorite.  
Your favorite employment?.....The show business, and the more of it the better.  
Your favorite amusement?.....Riding—horseback, motor car, yacht, trolley car, hansom, ferryboat or elevator. I want to be on the move.  
Your favorite flower?.....The American Beauty Rose, because it is the most expensive.  
Your favorite color?.....Blue, when it is confined to my clothes and the sky. Otherwise, orange.  
Your favorite book?.....Anything left us by old Marcus Aurelius.  
Your favorite song?.....The one that goes best.  
Your favorite poet?.....Homer, whose "Iliad" has been plagiarized by every rhymer since his time.  
City in which you would rather live?.....New York. I'm used to it.  
Your favorite language?.....The English, because my friends can understand it.  
Your present state of mind?.....Perfectly tranquil, thank you.  
Your idea of perfect happiness?.....To have the money I want to spend and to live where I please.  
Your idea of perfect misery?.....To be broke all the time.  
Your favorite hero in fiction?.....They are all pretty good, but I don't care for fiction anyhow. I'm a devotee to the Gospel life.  
Your favorite hero in real life?.....I think I like George Washington best of all. He was a nice man.  
Your favorite heroine in fiction?.....I don't like any of them, but of all Hypatia is the best.  
Your favorite heroine in real life?.....Marie Corelli, because she isn't afraid to say what she thinks.  
Your greatest desire?.....To have everything I want, and I want so much I won't put any one thing first.

### HIS SPEED RECORD.

"Has the Russian General, Hittomup, a good war record?" "I should say so," he retorted. "I'm a good war record." "Not at all," replied the Russian. "I'm a good war record." "Not at all," replied the Russian. "I'm a good war record."

### A BAD GRAPE.

"You seemed pretty familiar with that last chap," remarked the dog. "Not at all," replied the dog. "I'm a good war record." "Not at all," replied the dog. "I'm a good war record."